

Hate Crime Reporting

Introduction

In response to a growing concern about hate crimes, the President of the U.S. signed into law on April 23, 1990, the Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990. The Act required the U.S. Attorney General to establish guidelines and collect, through the UCR Program, data "about crimes that manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity, including where appropriate the crimes of murder, forcible rape, aggravated assault, simple assault, intimidation, arson and destruction or vandalism of property." The Hate Crime Statistics Act was amended by the Violent Crime and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to include crimes motivated by a bias against persons with disabilities. In order to comply with the amendment, the FBI began collecting data on disability crime in 1997.

The enactment of Federal legislation requiring the collection and publication of nationwide hate crime statistics prompted the N.C. General Assembly to pass hate crime legislation. This legislation allows for stiffer penalties for crimes committed solely on the basis of hate and provided funding for the N.C. Justice Academy to train law enforcement agencies in hate crime reporting. The N.C. Justice Academy began training law enforcement agencies during the fall of 1992, and in 1997, the Division of Criminal Information (DCI) began conducting hate crime training. This training continues statewide.

DCI also provides assistance to agencies in hate crime reporting by providing forms, reporting assistance and statistical analysis. From 1992 through 1994, DCI received a limited number of hate crime reports. In 1995, fifty-nine agencies reported 52 hate crime incidents to DCI; in 1996, eighty-three agencies reported 34 hate crime incidents; in 1997, twenty-two agencies reported 42 hate crime incidents; in 1998, seventeen agencies reported 40 hate crime incidents; and in 1999, fifteen agencies reported 31 hate crime incidents. While this limited participation is not sufficient to allow valid statewide measures of the volume and types of crimes motivated by hate, these reports do offer perspectives on the general nature of hate crime occurrences.

Methodology

This section contains tables that address the volume and types of bias-motivated criminal incidents reported to the DCI during 1999. Criminal incidents can involve more than one offense, victim, or offender. For counting purposes, one offense is counted for each victim of a "crime against person." One offense is counted for each distinct operation of "crime against property," regardless of the number of victims. The total number of victims in a given incident is the sum of victims associated with each offense that took place within the incident.

Agencies Reporting Hate Crime by Bias Motivation - 1999

Agency Name	Number of Incidents	Race	Ethnicity	Religion	Sexual Orientation	Disability
Blowing Rock	1	0	0	0	1	0
Cary	1	0	0	1	0	0
Chapel Hill PD	1	1	0	0	0	0
Concord	1	1	0	0	0	0
Elizabeth City	1	1	0	0	0	0
Gaston Co PD	5	4	1	0	0	0
Greensboro	1	3	0	1	0	0
Iredell Co SO	1	1	0	0	0	0
Jacksonville	1	1	0	0	0	0
Lexington	1	1	0	0	0	0
Raleigh PD	8	6	1	1	0	0
Rocky Mount	2	1	0	1	0	0
Smithfield	2	2	0	0	0	0
Wadesboro	1	1	0	0	0	0
Winston-Salem	1	1	0	0	0	0
Totals	31	24	2	4	1	0